CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: Naughty Bear

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1001308.000

Medium: Console Game

Distributor: All Interactive Distribution

Country of origin: Canada

Language: English

Applicant: Secretary for Internal Affairs

Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years.

Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: Contains violence.

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 26 August 2010

Date of direction to issue a label: 26 August 2010

	Components	**Running time**
Game:	Naughty Bear	
Total running time:		

Summary of reasons for decision:

The console game was submitted on behalf of the Secretary for Internal Affairs under s13(1)(b) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act). The Film and Video Labelling Body had cross-rated the game as 'Unrestricted: Suitable for mature audiences 16 years of age and over' from the Australian classification. However, the game has received higher classifications in other jurisdictions.

"Naughty Bear" is a violent, satirical game where the player controls an anthropomorphic teddy

bear whose sole task is to kill other teddy bears. The emphasis on killing is likely to desensitise children to violence in general. Children will be especially disturbed by the depiction of familiar childhood toys engaged in frequent acts of cruelty and violence. Teenagers and adults possess the maturity to recognise the game's contrived representations of violence and the satirical nature of the game. For these reasons the publication is classified 'Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years' with the descriptive note, 'Contains violence'.

Considerations under s3 of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 have been weighed against the relevant provisions of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. Given the manner, extent and degree to which the publication deals with matters of violence and cruelty, a limit on its availability to teenagers and adults is considered to be a reasonable and demonstrably justifiable restriction. This limitation on the publication's availability is the minimum restriction that can be applied in order to prevent likely injury to the public good.